

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,697,130 to Weindorf et al.

Claims 4, 7-8, 26, 28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,781,648 to Takahashi et al. in view of Weindorf et al.

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Weindorf et al. and further in view of European Patent Application No. EP 0580 908 to Uratani.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claim 1 by incorporating the feature of claim 3, and canceled claim 3 without disclaimer or prejudice. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4, 6-8, 26, 28 and 29 remain pending in this application for further consideration with claims 5, 9-25, 27 and 30-44 being withdrawn from consideration.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Weindorf et al., claims 4, 7-8, 26, 28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Weindorf et al., and claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi et al. in view of Weindorf et al. and further in view of Uratani. To the extent that the rejections might be reapplied to the claims as presently amended, they are respectfully traversed as being based on a reference or a combination of references that does not teach or suggest the novel combination of features recited in the claims.

With regard to independent claim 1, as newly-amended, Applicants respectfully submit that Weindorf et al. fails to teach or suggest a claimed combination, including at least the recited feature of “the plurality of white, red, green, and blue light emitting diodes are sequentially disposed in an order of white, red, green, and blue.”

The Office Action appears to allege Weindorf et al. teaches or suggests each and every feature of independent claim 1. In particular, the Office Action at Page 4 appears to allege that claims 2 and 3 are taught and suggested by teachings of “any combination of LEDs is possible” in col. 6, lines 57-60 of Weindorf et al. Applicants respectfully disagree. In fact, the cited portion of Weindorf et al. merely describes a combination of different types of LEDs.

Applicants respectfully submit that Weindorf et al. fails to teach or suggest a combination/arrangement in order of colors. In other words, Applicants respectfully submit that Weindorf et al. fails to teach or suggest the feature of “the plurality of white, red, green, and blue light emitting diodes are sequentially disposed in an order of white, red, green, and blue,” as recited by independent claim 1, newly-amended by incorporating the feature of claim 3.

Also, the Office Action concedes at Page 5 that Takahashi et al. fails to teach or suggest a feature of “the light emitting diodes are disposed in order of white, red, green and blue.” Further to the reasons as those set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that Takahashi et al. and Weindorf et al., whether taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a claimed combination including at least the recited feature of “a plurality of light emitting diodes in order of white, red, green, and blue,” as recited by each of independent claims 4 and 26.

In addition, the Office Action does not rely upon Uratani to cure the above-noted deficiencies of Takahashi et al. and Weindorf et al. Further, Uratani cannot remedy the deficiencies of Takahashi et al. and Weindorf et al. That is, Uratani also fails to teach or suggest

the above-described features of independent claim 1, as newly-amended, and independent claims 4 and 26.

As pointed out in MPEP § 2131, "[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim." Thus, "[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. Of California, 2 USPQ 2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)." Also, MPEP § 2143.03 instructs that "[t]o establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. In re Royka, 409 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974)."

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and the rejection of independent claims 4 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn because the applied references, individually or in combination, fail to teach or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 1, as newly-amended, and independent claims 4 and 26. Further, the rejections of claims 2, 6-8, 28 and 29 should also be withdrawn at least because of their dependencies upon the respective independent claims 1, 4 and 26 and for the reasons as those set forth above.

With no other rejection pending, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1-2, 4, 6-8, 26, 28 and 29 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited. Should there remain any questions or comments regarding this

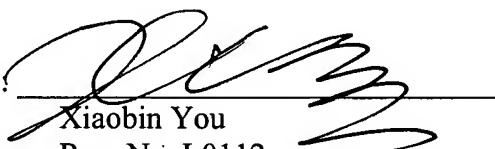
response or the application in general, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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